

## *Vice Mayor and District IV Commissioner Romney Rogers*



**Financial Transparency** – The City has launched a Financial Transparency Portal to further increase financial transparency and enhance customer service. Through this portal, neighbors can view the City's financial data in a variety of formats, including by department, division, or index code. Data is included for FY 2013, FY 2014 Budget and year-to-date, and for our newly adopted FY 2015 Budget. Users can drill down to see finite details or scale up to see the big picture. You can view multiple years of budget data, chart year-over-year trends, filter the data, and seamlessly download and share financial data and graphs. Charts and graphs can be used in a PowerPoint or other multi-media presentation. The Portal is accessible from any computer or tablet and through all major browsers and operating systems. It

may be accessed via <http://fortlauderdale.gov/opengov/index.htm>. Once on the site, simply click on "Explore Budget Data" and all of the information will be at your fingertips.

### **All Aboard Florida Project**

**Public Meeting** – The Federal Railroad Administration has released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Miami to Orlando Passenger Rail Service, which is planned to include intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. There will be a Public Meeting on the Draft EIS on **Tuesday, October 28 from 3:30 – 7 PM** at the Broward County Convention Center, 1950 Eisenhower Blvd. The Draft EIS can be found at <https://www.fra.dot.gov/Page/P0672>, and the **comment period ends December 3, 2014**. The full list of upcoming Public Meetings is provided on the same web page. For additional information, log on to the "Speak Up Broward" Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/events/321969684657297>. The Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), of which I am a Board Member, presents additional information in its newsletter available at <http://www.browardmpo.org/userfiles/files/BMPO%20-%204%20pagesEnglish.pdf>.

**Quiet Zones** – A Quiet Zone is an area with adequate safety features, e.g., gates, raised medians, or lights, to enable trains to pass without sounding their horns, which can reach 110 decibels. In Broward County, there are 65 train crossings, 19 of which need maximum upgrades to create a Quiet Zone. The City, All Aboard Florida, Broward County, and the MPO are working in partnership to create Quiet Zones at crossings citywide.

**Lauderdale Isles Water Cleanup** – The first-ever September Lauderdale Isles Water Cleanup was held on Sept. 20. There were 75 volunteers and 14 boats participating, resulting in about 1,900 pounds of trash and debris (nearly a ton!) being removed from the waterways of Lauderdale Isles. Thanks to all who participated in this job well done!

**Armchair Athletes Project** – In keeping with our commitment to encourage healthy lifestyles, Fort Lauderdale is kicking off a new initiative to tackle childhood obesity. The Armchair Athletes Project provides opportunities for children to participate in fun, friendly, fitness activities. On **Saturday, Oct. 25**, as part of **Fort Lauderdale Make A Difference Day**,\* nearly 100 Armchair Athletes will compete for prizes in a variety of athletic events. Hosted at Snyder Park (3299 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue), the free event will also include educational displays, exhibits, and presentations themed around health, wellness, physical fitness, and proper diet. For more information, contact Jorg Hruschka in the City's Neighbor Volunteer Office at 954-828-5568 or [jhruschka@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:jhruschka@fortlauderdale.gov).

\* **Make A Difference Day** events are at <http://fortlauderdale.gov/news/2014/pdf/102514makeadifferenceday.pdf>.

**Household Hazardous Waste** – Upcoming dates and locations for disposal of household hazardous waste and electronics (proof of residency required with driver's license or utility bill) are as follows:

- November 8: City of Pompano Beach (9 AM - 2 PM) 1660 NE 10<sup>th</sup> Street (Community Park)
- December 6: City of Tamarac (9 AM - 2 PM) 6011 Nob Hill Road

### **For Your Calendar**

- **The Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show** runs from Thursday, Oct. 30 thru Monday, Nov. 3 this year. For details, see [http://www.showmanagement.com/fort\\_lauderdale/event](http://www.showmanagement.com/fort_lauderdale/event).
- **Light Up Lauderdale** is set for Thursday, Nov. 13 at 6:30 PM in Esplanade Park.
- **Light Up the Beach** will be on Tuesday, Nov. 25 at 5:30 PM, A1A and E Las Olas.
- **Winterfest Family Fun Day** is on Sunday, Nov. 23 on the Riverside Hotel Lawn, 620 E Las Olas, from Noon to 4 PM. The **Boat Parade** is set for Saturday, Dec. 13. See <http://www.winterfestparade.com>.
- **Christmas on Las Olas** is from 5 - 10 PM on Tuesday, Dec. 2 between SE 6<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> avenues.
- **Christmas Pageant** at First Baptist Church - Shows run Nov. 28 - Dec. 14. See <http://ChristmasTickets.com>.
- **Las Olas Sunday Market**, 9 AM - 2 PM at 333 E Las Olas. The market is on Facebook, for more information.

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➤ My City Hall Office Hours are Mondays from 2 – 5:30 PM and Tuesdays from 9 AM – Noon (in non-Commission weeks). For appointments, please contact MJ Matthews at 954-828-5028 or [mmatthews@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:mmatthews@fortlauderdale.gov).